Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The delegation discussed with the Indian businessmen possibilities of setting-up of joint ventures in Saudi Arabia and Indian. Bilateral matters concerning trade and investment were also discussed. No offer for concessional finance was however made by the Saudi delegation.

The Indian business community has responded positively to cooperate with Saudi businessmen for promotion of trade and setting up joint ventures in either country. Specific projects, however, were not discussed.

Export of Agricultural Commodities by STC

2518. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the agricultural commodities being exported alongwith the quantity thereof during the last two years, countrywise;

(b) the share of the State Trading Corporation in the above commodities in terms of quantity with value and destination; and

(c) what are the targets set for the current season in respect of agricultural commodities for export alongwith estimated earnings and quantity and the share of STC in the total export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) A Statement is attached [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 138].

(b) A Statement is attached [*See* Appendix CXLIX Annexure No. 139]

(c) The targets set for the current year 1988-89 are in value terms i.e. Rupees crores Targets and expected realisations are as below:—

	Target	E xpected earnings
Cashew Kernels	285	270
Tobacco	110	110
Oil Meals	250	290—300
Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Meat and products, other processed Foods	400	375
Rice	350	300
Wheat	None	—
Spice	300	260
HPS Groundnut	15	25
Sugar	16*	The target is expected to be achieved.

*Target fixed on the basis mainly of USA, EEC preferential quotas.

No specific tagets have been fixed for STC as share in total exports.

बनारसी-वस्त्रों के निर्माण के लिए कच्चे रेशम का आवंटन

2519. **डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1987-88, 1988-89 वर्ष में वाराणसी में बनारसी वस्त्रों के निर्माण के लिए कितने कच्चे रेशम का आवंटन किया गया;

(ख) उपभोक्ताओं के बीच कच्चे रेशम के वितरणार्थ किस प्रणाली को अपनाया गया तथा इससे लाभान्वित होने वाले व्यक्तियों का ब्योरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार को वितरण-प्रणाली के संबंध में कोई शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई है; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है; और

(घ) उन शिकायतों को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रफीक आलम): (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड उपभोक्ता को किसी देशी रेशम का आवंटन नहीं करता है क्योंकि ऐसा रेशम मुक्त-बाजार-वस्तु है। फिर भी देश में रेशम की कमी/कीमतों में असाधारण वृद्धि जैसी विशेष हालत में आवश्यक होने पर, कीमत स्थिरीकरण के अन्तर्गत वितरण के लिए केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड (सी एस बी) को कच्चे रेशम के आयात की अनुमति दी जाती है। इस स्कीम के अन्तर्गत, सी एस बी ने अब तक 1987-88 तथा 1988-89 के दौरान चीन से 36 मी० टन कच्चे रेशम का आयात किया है। इसमें से वाराणसी के बुनकरों सहित उत्तर प्रदेश के बुनकरों को वितरण के लिए 18.9 मी० टन की मात्रा निम्नलिखित एजेन्सियों को आवंटित की गयी है। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य हथकरघा निगम आल इण्डिया हैंडलूम फैब्रिक कोआपरेटिव मार्केटिंग सोसाइटी लि०, राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा विकास निगम।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Smuggling of Rare Diamond

2520. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned Rare diamond smuggled' which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' (Delhi Edition) dated the 28th February, 1989; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check the smuggling of such rare diamond in that part of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Customs authorities at the international airports and seaports have been alerted about the possible attempts of smuggling of such rare diamonds and have been directed to remain vigilant.

Losses incurred by the Orissa Textile Mill

2521. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa textile mill at Choudwar in Orissa is running at a loss;

(b) if so, the year since when that textile mill is incurring losses;

(c) the extent of losses incurred by the mill since then; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the performance of that mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) Government do not maintain profit and loss accounts of individual mills.

(d) The State Government have constituted a Committee to suggest measures to arrest cash losses.

Identity Cards for People in Border Villages of Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur

2522. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have directed the Punjab Government to issue identity cards to the